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Senate Committee Clears Sporkin for U.S. Judgeship

By a WALL STREET JOURNAL Staff Reporter

WASHINGTON — The Senate Judiciary Committee, after an 18-month delay, approved on a voice vote the nomination of Stanley Sporkin, general counsel of the Central Intelligence Agency, to be a federal judge.

Mr. Sporkin, former director of enforcement at the Securities and Exchange Commission, still must be approved by the Senate before he can take a seat on the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.

The nomination was held up by Sen. Jeremiah Denton, an Alabama Republican, who investigated charges that Mr. Sporkin helped obtain legal counsel for a CIA official whom the Federal Bureau of Investigation suspected of espionage. The official, Charles Waterman, who specialized in the Middle East, was never prosecuted and resigned in 1984.